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TECH CENTER 1600/2900



) Group No.: 1642

) Examiner: Rawlings, S.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: *Fern S. Markar*

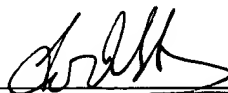
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Applicant hereby responds to the Examiner's restriction requirement in the Office Action mailed January 29, 2001 in the above-referenced application. Enclosed herewith is a petition for a two-month extension of time and the fee therefor, thereby making this a timely response. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (Our Order No. A-68668/RFT/TAL).

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If a telephone call will help expedite any aspect of the prosecution of the instant application, Applicant encourages the Examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone at (415) 781-1989 or by fax at (415) 398-3249.

Dated: April 13, 2001



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